EXHIBIT B

State of Tennessee

In the Circuit Court of Sequatchie County

| KAT | HY DENTON | | | |
|--------|--|---|-------------------|--|
| | | Plaintiff | No. | 2018CV33 |
| NEW | YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO | | _ | I. KAREN L. MILLSAPS, CLERK OF T |
| | | Defendant | | CIRCUIT & SESSIONS COURTS OF SEQUATCHIE COUNTY, TENNESSE |
| | | SUMN | IONS | CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT FILED IN THIS OFFICE |
| | New York Life Insurance Com | pany - 51 | | 00 Marcio |
| | Madison Avenue, New York, N | | | THIS DAY OF 1,201 |
| | c/o Commissioner of Insurance | for the State of | 500 James Re | obertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243- |
| TO: | Tennessee | | 1131 | () CLERK DEPUTY CLERK |
| | Defendant | | Address | |
| | D.C. 1 | | | |
| | Defendant | | Address | |
| | Defendant | | Address | |
| | Dolomant | | 71447 633 | |
| Court | | ssee on or before thir against you for the r | ty (30) days afte | nplaint must be filed in the office of the Circuit r service of this summons upon you. If you fail in the complaint. , 20 <u>18</u> |
| | CIRCUIT COURT OF SEQUATCHIE CO 351 Fredonia Road, Suite B Dunlap, TN 37327 | DUNTY By (| Maren L. | Millsaps, Circuit Court Clerk |
| | (423) 949-2618 | | 0 | Deputy Circuit Court Clerk |
| | neys for Plaintiff <u>Samuel F. Hudson,</u> Box 485, Dunlap, TN 37327 | | | |
| | | Addı | ress | |
| | | | | |
| Plaint | iff's Address See Attorney's Address | 3 | | |
| | Received thisd | ay of | | , 20 <u>18</u> |
| | | /S/ | | |
| | | | | Deputy Sheriff |
| | | | | |



KAREN L. MILLSAPS, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT & SESSIONS COURTS OF SEQUATCHIE COUNTY, TENNESSEH

IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TENNESSIE ECT COPY OF THIS ORIGINAL CIRCUIT COURT OF SEQUATCHIE COUNTPOCUMENT FILED IN THIS OFFICE.

| KATHY DENTON, | THIS 28 DAY OF March, | , 2 |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| Plaintiff, | () CLERK DEPUTY CLER | R |
| V. | No. 2018CV33 | |
| NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, | July Dampun | |
| Defendant. | Circuit Court Seguatchie Co., TN | |
| | Paren I Milleaux Clerk | |

COMPLAINT

Comes now Plaintiff, KATHY A. DENTON (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and in support of her Complaint against Defendant, NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (hereinafter "Defendant"), asserts as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff is an adult citizen and resident of Sequatchie County, Tennessee, and she is the surviving widow of John Edward Denton (hereinafter "Decedent") who died on November 11, 2016. At all times relevant herein, Decedent was also a citizen and resident of Sequatchie County, Tennessee.
- 2. Defendant is a foreign insurance company doing business in this state. As such, Defendant may be served with process through the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance.
- 3. On or about September 8, 2016, Decedent completed a form titled Member Enrollment Form Request for Group Insurance (hereinafter "Enrollment Form")(a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A). On said Enrollment Form, Decedent required \$75,000.00 in life insurance coverage and designated Plaintiff as the sole beneficiary. Decedent signed the form electronically and submitted it via an on-line application.
- 4. Decedent was physically located in Tennessee when he completed and submitted the Enrollment Form.

- 5. The Enrollment Form contained a section titled, "B. Statement of Health," which required Decedent to respond "yes" or "no" to the three (3) questions regarding Decedent's health. Decedent truthfully answered "NO" to all three (3) questions, but only the following two (2) questions are pertinent to this lawsuit:
 - "1. In the past 2 years, have you had treatment or medication for or been diagnosed as having heart trouble, stroke, cancer, lung disease, diabetes requiring insulin, liver or kidney disease, AIDS, AIDS related Complex, or immune system disorder?"
 - "3. In the past 3 months, have you consulted a doctor or had treatment, medication or diagnostic tests of any type?"
- 6. On or about October 14, 2016, Defendant issued and delivered to Decedent a Certificate of insurance coverage indicating that Defendant had issued an insurance policy insuring Decedent's life as of that date for \$75,000.00, with Plaintiff designated as the sole beneficiary of said insurance policy. The Policy Number as AA-66, and the Certificate Number was A8742237. A copy of the Certificate is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 7. On October 1, 2016, approximately one (1) month after Decedent had completed and submitted the Enrollment Form to Defendant, Decedent was diagnosed with small cell cancer of the lung. Prior to this diagnosis, Decedent had received no other diagnosis of cardiac or pulmonary disease.
- 8. On November 11, 2016, Decedent passed away as a direct result of lung cancer. A copy of Decedent's death certificate is attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- 9. A short time after Decedent's death, Plaintiff submitted a claim for benefits to Defendant pursuant to Decedent's life insurance policy with Defendant.
- 10. On or about March 29, 2017, Defendant mailed a written response to Plaintiff in which it denied Plaintiff's claim based on an allegation that Decedent had misstated material facts concerning his medical history by responding "no" to questions 1 and 3 on the Enrollment Form as previously set forth in paragraph 5 herein. As a result of said allegation, Defendant rescinded Decedent's policy and issued a refund to Plaintiff for any premiums paid toward the policy prior to Decedent's death.

- 11. Following her receipt of Defendant's correspondence dated March 29, 2017, Plaintiff subsequently submitted a letter to Defendant from Decedent's treating physician, Dr. Paul L. Dassow, who treated Decedent from 2011 through his death in 2016. Dr. Dassow's letter explicitly stated that Decedent had not received any diagnosis of cardiac or pulmonary disease prior to October 1, 2016, and that Decedent "had no significant symptoms of cardiac or pulmonary disease at the time that he obtained his life insurance policy." A copy of Dr. Dassow's letter is attached hereto as Exhibit D.
- 12. In response to the letter from Dr. Dassow, Defendant again responded in writing to Plaintiff on or about May 16, 2017. In said response, Defendant stated that Plaintiff's claim was not denied due to Decedent's lung cancer. Rather Defendant denied the claim due to Decedent's medial history which included diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, chronic pulmonary disease and sleep apnea. Defendant also claimed that Decedent underwent diagnostic testing within the prior three (3) months to submitting the Enrollment Form. As such, Defendant reasserted its intent to rescind Decedent's life insurance policy and refund any premiums that Decedent had paid toward the policy.
- 13. When completing the Enrollment Form, Decedent did not misstate any material facts regarding his medical history, nor did he fail to provide pertinent medical information at the time he completed and submitted the Enrollment Form.
- 14. When compared to the pertinent questions asked of Decedent on the Enrollment Form as previously stated herein, Defendant wrongfully denied Plaintiff's claim based on an incorrect, inaccurate and false restatement and interpretation of Decedent's relevant medical history.
 - 15. Defendant has in bad faith wrongfully denied Plaintiff's claim.

COUNT I - DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

16. Based on the foregoing, there is a dispute between Plaintiff and Defendant as to whether Decedent misstated material facts regarding his health history when completing and submitting the Enrollment Form.

- 17. There is also a dispute between Plaintiff and Defendant as to whether Defendant is entitled to rescind Decedent's life insurance policy and avoid paying Plaintiff the value of said policy.
 - 18. The Court should settle the aforementioned disputes between the parties.
- 19. The costs of this matter should be assessed against Defendant pursuant to *T.C.A.* § 29-14-111.

COUNT II - BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 20. Defendant's agreement to insure Decedent's life by means of a life insurance policy constitutes an enforceable contract between Decedent and Defendant.
- 21. Plaintiff, as the sole beneficiary of the life insurance policy between Decedent and Defendant, is a third-party beneficiary of the policy/contract.
- 22. Defendant's wrongful refusal to pay Plaintiff \$75,000.00 upon Decedent's death constitutes a material breach of the aforementioned contract.
- 23. As a direct result of Defendant's breach of the contract, Plaintiff has suffered damages which included, but are not necessarily limited to, \$75,000.00 as the value of the life insurance policy, pre-judgement interest, costs, and fees, to include reasonable attorney's fees.
 - 24. Defendant is responsible for Plaintiff's aforementioned damages.

COUNT III - BAD FAITH REFUSAL TO PAY

- 25. By its terms, Defendant's policy insuring Decedent's life has become due and payable.
- 26. Plaintiff has made a formal demand to Defendant for payment of her claim under Defendant's policy.
- 27. More than 60 days have passed from the time Plaintiff made her formal demand to Defendant for payment of her claim under Defendant's policy and the filing of this Complaint.
- 28. Defendant's refusal to pay Plaintiff in accordance with the express terms of the policy has not been in good faith.
- 29. Based on Defendant's bad faith in timely paying Plaintiff pursuant to the terms of the aforementioned life insurance policy, Plaintiff should be awarded \$75,000.00, plus interest, against Defendant, plus an award for any other damages

suffered by Plaintiff as a result of Defendant's bad faith failure to pay Plaintiff's claim, to include Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees.

30. Defendant should further be assessed an additional 25% of Plaintiff's aforementioned losses pursuant to *T.C.A.* § 56-7-105(a).

COUNT IV - VIOLATION OF THE TENNESSEE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

- 31. Defendant's alleged justification for failing to pay Plaintiff's claim pursuant to Defendant's own policy was based on an incorrect, inaccurate and false restatement and interpretation of Decedent's relevant medical history as said history related to the relevant questions on the Enrollment Form completed and submitted by Decedent.
- 32. Based on Defendant's incorrect, inaccurate and false restatement and interpretation of Decedent's relevant medical history, it is clear that Defendant never had any intention to pay any claim arising from Decedent's death.
- 33. Based on Defendant's aforementioned conduct, it is clear that Defendant advertised the life insurance policy with no intent to ever pay a claim on the policy as advertised.
- 34. Defendant's aforementioned conduct violated the *Tennessee Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)*, *T.C.A.* § 47-18-104(b)(9).
- 35. Based on Defendant's violation of the TCPA, Plaintiff should be awarded a judgment against Defendant for three (3) times her actual damages pursuant to *T.C.A.* § 47-18-109(a)(3).

WHEREFORE, ALL PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff respectfully prays for the following relief:

- (a) That she be allowed to file this Complaint and that proper process be issued and served upon the Defendant through the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance requiring Defendant to appear and answer within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Summons and copy of this Complaint, but not under oath, the oath being expressly waived;
- (b) That this Honorable Court enter a judgment declaring that Defendant is not entitled to rescind the life insurance policy insuring Decedent's life and requiring Defendant to pay Plaintiff's claim pursuant to said policy;
 - (c) That a jury be impaneled to consider all triable issues in this matter;

- (d) That following a trial in this matter, Defendant be found to have materially breached the terms of its life insurance policy/contract with Decedent and Plaintiff;
- (e) That following a trial in this matter, Defendant be found to have refused to pay Plaintiff's claim in bad faith;
- (f) That following a trial in this matter, Defendant be found to have violated the *TCPA* as alleged herein;
- (g) That Plaintiff be awarded a judgment against Defendant in the amount of \$75,000, plus pre- and post-judgment interest, for Defendant's material breach of contract;
- (h) That Plaintiff also be awarded all her damages suffered as a result of Defendant's bad faith refusal to pay her claim, to include her reasonable attorney's fees, plus an additional 25% of her damages pursuant to *T.C.A.* § 56-7-105(a);
- (i) That Plaintiff also be awarded treble damages for Defendant's violation of the *TCPA*:
- (j) That all costs of this matter, to include Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees (if not awarded pursuant to a finding of bad faith), be assessed against Defendant;
 - (k) For any other general relief to which Plaintiff may be entitled.

Respectfully Submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF SAMUEL F. HUDSON

BY:

SAMUEL F. HUDSON, TNBPR # 022852 Attorney for Plaintiff

P.O. Box 485

Dunlap, TN 37327

PH: (423) 949-7900 / FX: (423) 949-9100

COST BOND

The undersigned is surety for the costs of this cause, not to exceed five hundred (\$500.00) Dollars.

Samuel F. Hudson

| X | I'm | already | an A | ARP | member. |
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| I want to become an AARP member. |
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| I understand I will be billed \$16.00 for a |
| full year of membership |

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| Address Dunlap | TN | 37327 | Date of Birth | (Required) | 50 Female |
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| Coverage Amount Request | | Electron Electron | | | |
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| | | | 0 / 9 / 2016 | | |
| john denton | ANTE PIONIS | | 7 / 6 / 2010 | | |

APPLICATION ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED

Form GPA-A3 (1)-CF



CERTIFICATE

New York Life Insurance Company 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010

AARP LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE (GROUP LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE INSURANCE)

(To AGE 80 With Increasing Premiums)

DEFINED TERMS ARE ALL CAPITALIZED. PLEASE REFER TO THE DEFINITIONS SECTION.

POLICYHOLDER

TRUSTEE OF THE AARP LIFE INSURANCE TRUST

POLICY NUMBER

AA-66 (the "POLICY")

WE certify that the INSURED becomes insured on the INSURANCE DATE stated below on the Individual Schedule Of Benefits if the initial PREMIUM is paid no later than 31 days after the INSURANCE DATE. Insurance is subject to: (a) the Suicide Limitation; (b) the terms and conditions of the POLICY; and (c) OUR underwriting requirements.

INDIVIDUAL SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

CERTIFICATE NUMBER

A8742237

INSURED MEMBER

John Denton

ADDRESS

358 Holly Trail

Dunlap, TN 37327

DATE OF BIRTH

1950

AGE AT ISSUE

65

SEX

Male

\$75,000

INSURANCE DATE

10-14-2016

AMOUNT OF INSURANCE

BENEFICIARY

First Beneficiary - Kathy Denton 100%

RIGHT TO EXAMINE THE

The OWNER will have 30 days from the date of receipt to examine the Certificate. If the CERTIFICATE FOR 30 DAYS OWNER does not wish to keep the Certificate, it must be surrendered to US within this

period. Upon such surrender, WE will return any PREMIUM paid and insurance will be

void from the start.

This Certificate replaces all Certificates and Certificate Riders, if any, previously issued under the above Certificate Number.

PREMIUM WILL INCREASE IN FIVE YEAR AGE BANDS. SEE PREMIUM ON IMPORTANT NOTICE PAGE.

Secretary

AA-66/CERT GMR-FACE, GMR-C-SCH **EXHIBIT**

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| last. | Married Married, but separated Widowed | | | name prior to first marriage) | | 11a, DECEDENT'S USUAL OCCUPATION | | |
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| | Doctorate (e.g., PhD, EdD) or Pro (e.g., MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD) | fessional degree | Unkne | own | | Japanese Korean | 4 6 | Other (Specify) |
| PARENTS | Unknown 18. FATHER'S NAME (First, Middle, | Last) | | | 19, MOTHER | _ | FIRST MARRIAGE (Fire | Unknown |
| | James Edwin | Denton | | | | Ma | ary Augusta I | /liller |
| | 20a, INFORMANT'S NAME Kathy A. Dento | ОП | | Wife | IP TO DECEDENT | 358 Holly | | er, City, State, Zip Code) Tennessee 37327 |
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| | 22a. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL, DIRECTOR E. RUSSEII FORD | | | | | | | 22d. LICENSE NUMBER |
| - | ► E. Russell Ford | ERAL HOME | | 0000 | ► TI | iomas L. Noi | | 3611 |
| | Chattanooga Funeral | | natory & | Florist, 540 | 01 Hwy. 153, F | Hixson, TN 3 | 7343 414 | |
| REGISTRAR | 24. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE | La | Suigh | abilva | ape ! | S. DATE FILED (Mor | Sy ZZ | 2016 |
| CERTIFIER | 26. CERTIFIER (Check only one): 262. PHYSICIAN -To the bes | st of my knowledge | death occurred | d at the date and to | iere and due to the co | usee(s) and manner et | stad . 5 35 | |
| PHYSICIAN | 25b. MEDICAL EXAMINER | - On the basis of ex | ramination, an | d/or invastigation, | in my opinion, death of | coursed at the date, an | d place, and due to the | cause(s) and manner stated. |
| MEDICAL 2 | 27a. SIGNATURE OF CERTIFIER | 0/1 | | 27b. LJ | CENSE NUMBER | | | (Month, Day, Year) |
| EXAMINER EXECUTING CAUSE OF | A Min. | 1 What m | ^ | | 27356 AME AND ADDRESS | | 11-16-16 | |
| CONTENT | 1 Many C | Molls. | - 4 | Dr G | regory Phelps | 4411 Oakwo | od Drive Chai | tanooga TN 37416 |
| 11 | 28. PART I. Enter the chain of events respiratory arrest, or ventricular fib IMMEDIATE CAUSE | (diseases, injuries, nilation without show | or complication | | | Tenter terminal ever | nts such as cardiac arre | Approximate interval: Onset to death |
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| lis | isled on line a. Enter the UNDERLYING CAUSE | c. | | Due to (or | as a consequence of): | | F 1 1 1 | |
| (c) | (disease or injury that initiated the events resulting d. | | | | | | | |
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| 10/ | Not pregnan | | | | Not pregnant with | | Not p | regnant, but pregnant 43 days to r before death |
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| 65 3 | Driver/Operator · | | | | | 5 25 | | |
| | Passenger Pedestrian Other (Specify) | 34e. DESCRIBE H | OW INJURY | OCCURRED | | | OF INJURY (Street ar | d Number, City or Town, State) |

08891272

I hereby certify the above to be a true and correct representation of the record or document on file in this department. This certified copy is valid only when printed on security paper showing the red embossed seal of the Tennessee Department of Health. Alteration or erasure voids this certification. Reproduction of this document is prohibited.

Lori B. Ferranti, PhD, MSN; MBA, RN State Registrar/Asst. Commissioner

0 8 8 9 Date Issued

EXHIBIT

Case 1:18-cv-00087-RLJ-CHS | Document 6 Filed 05/09/18 | Page 12 of 13 | PageID #: 39

Chattanooga, TN 37403 423-778-8837 Fax: 423-778-9301 Department of Family Medicine 1100 East Third Street Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403 Tel: (423) 778-2957 Fax: (423) 778-2959

Re: JOHN DENTON (DECEASED)

DOB: ______1950 Phone: (423)949-5280 Address: 358 HOLLY TRL DUNLAP, TN 37327

To Whom It May Concern,

John Denton was my patient at UT Family Medicine in Chattanooga TN from 2011 until his death in late 2016. He was diagnosed with small cell cancer of the lung on October 1st, 2016.

Prior to his diagnosis, Mr. Denton had been evaluated for a complaint of poor exercise tolerance with multiple tests including an evaluation by a cardiologist. All tests were normal and HE HAD NO DIAGNOSES OF CARDIAC OR PULMONARY DISEASE PRIOR TO HIS OCTOBER 1ST DIAGNOSIS OF LUNG CANCER. Cardiology impression was deconditioning.

Mr. Denton had no significant symptoms of cardiac or pulmonary disease at the time that he obtained his life insurance policy.

If any questions arise concerning this report of Mr. Denton's medical history, please do not hesitate to call me at 423-778-9328.

Sincerely,

Paul L Dassow MD, MSPH

Associate Professor

Department of Family Medicine

University of Tennessee College of Medicine

EXHIBIT